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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

THURSDAY | 12.11.08

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STATE | BLAGOJEVICH

Edgar shocked at corruption

Former governor thinks Blagojevich should step down

By STEPHEN DI BENEDETTO
News Editor

Former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar was shocked about the level of political corruption Gov. Rod Blagojevich allegedly conducted during his two terms.

Edgar, a Charleston native and a 1968 Eastern graduate, said he was not surprised, however, that Blagojevich was arrested.

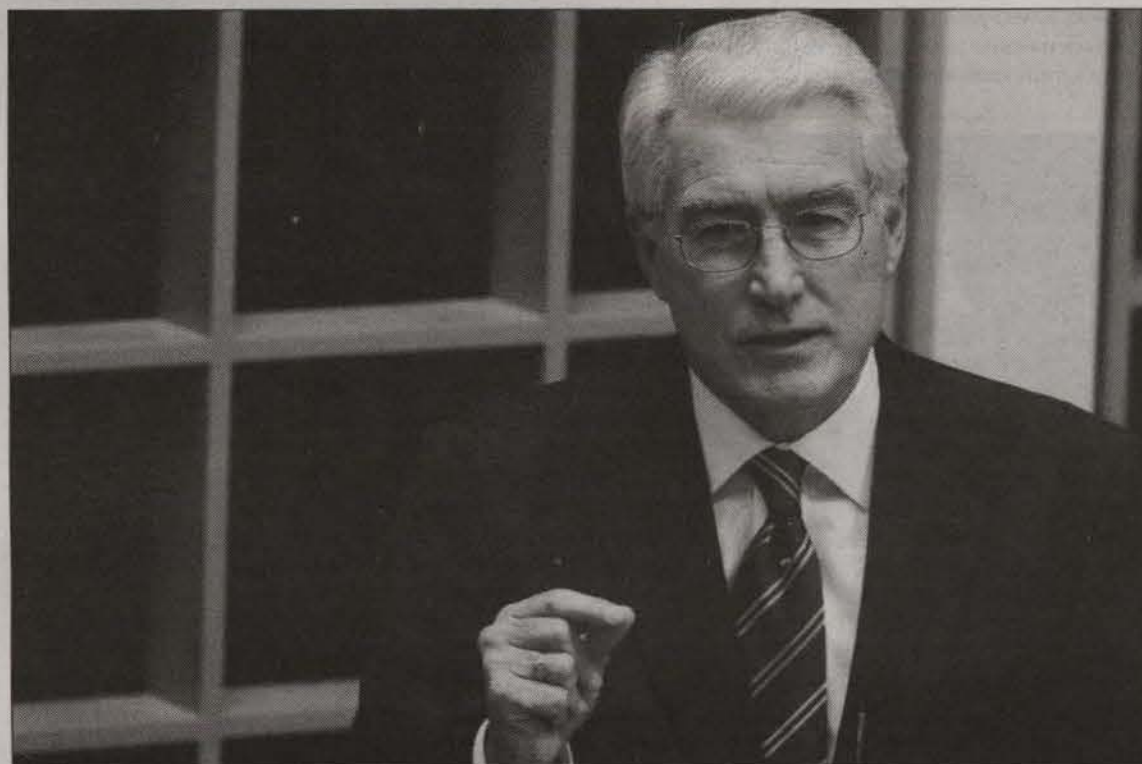
"I've never seen anything like it," Edgar said about the degree of Blagojevich's alleged unethical activity.

On Tuesday, the FBI arrested Blagojevich and John Harris, Blagojevich's chief of staff, for charges related to political corruption. The federal prosecutors allege Blagojevich partook in numerous corrupt activities, including auctioning President-elect Barack Obama's vacant U.S. Senate seat for campaign contributions.

"He's beyond anything I've seen," Edgar said.

Edgar, who served as governor from 1991 to 1999, said former Gov. George Ryan, who was convicted in 2006 because of political corruption, did wrong, but his actions pale in comparison to Blagojevich's actions.

He said he does not know if there is any logical rationale for



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Former Gov. Jim Edgar, a native of Charleston, was shocked, but not surprised at Blagojevich's alleged illegal activities. "He's beyond anything I've seen," Edgar said of Blagojevich.

why Blagojevich would allegedly participate in so much political corruption. Edgar said he was also baffled that Blagojevich would continue these actions, knowing he was under investigation.

"It was off the charts," Edgar said about Blagojevich's actions.

He said whoever is the next governor, whether it is Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn or someone who is elected in 2010, he or she will be challenged more than Obama will

be on the federal level.

Edgar said the next governor will have to be extra careful with ethical issues, but will also have a host of policy issues to deal with, such as trying to fix Illinois' economy.

He said the next governor has to take care of all parts of Illinois and not favor Chicago or downstate Illinois. The next governor has to show he or she cares about people, Edgar said.

He said every state has its share

of corruption, and added most people in government are more honest than 30 years ago.

"That's changed," Edgar said about corrupt politics.

He said there is nothing specific about Illinois' political climate that harbors corruption, and concluded it only takes one individual to give the appearance that the entire system is tainted.

» SEE EDGAR, PAGE 5

STATE | INVESTIGATION

Rose, Republicans initiate impeachment

Staff Report

State Rep. Chapin Rose, R-Mahomet, and other House Republicans initiated impeachment proceedings of Gov. Rod Blagojevich Tuesday.

House Republicans filed a resolution that would form a special investigative committee to conduct impeachment hearings in the House, according to a press release.

According to precedent, the release stated, forming the committee is the first step of the impeachment process.

Also on Tuesday, House Minority Leader Tom Cross and other House Republicans sent a formal letter to the governor's office, demanding Blagojevich to resign. Many other state legislators issued statements, insisting that Blagojevich resign as well.

"The governor needs to do the right thing and resign," Rose said in the press release. "However, our side of the aisle is prepared to move forward and forcibly remove him should he refuse to do so."

On Tuesday, the FBI arrested Blagojevich and John Harris, Blagojevich's chief of staff, for charges related to political corruption. Blagojevich's alleged activities include trying to sell President-elect Barack Obama's vacant U.S. Senate seat for campaign contributions.

Rose did not return phone and e-mail inquiries Wednesday afternoon.

CAMPUS | MEETING

Student Senate meets for last time

Additional allocations for University Board voted on

By HEATHER HOLM
Student Government Editor

Student Senate members said their goodbyes Wednesday, while new senate members said their hellos.

With the fall elections, every person who ran got a spot.

A total of 152 people voted, with 63 voting in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and 89 voting in Coleman Hall.

Ashlei Birch, student executive officer of elections, said voting went well for the most part.

"One person voted twice, so their vote didn't count," Birch said. "Maybe they didn't understand or they could have done it on purpose."

At press time, the new Student Senate speaker was not announced.

The two people running were Drew Griffin, chair of the external relations committee, and Student Senate member Paul Reid.

Also at the meeting, both Student Body President Levi Bulgar and Student Senate Speaker

Isaac Sandidge gave speeches. Bulgar gave the State of the University report and Sandidge gave the State of the Senate report.

"Bulgar talks about basic things going on in the university, while Isaac talks about pros and cons of the senate," said Mike Hilty, chair of the shuttle bus committee. "It is his last real duty as speaker."

Bulgar talked about the Doudna Fine Arts Center rededication ceremony and the Mavis Staples concert.

"I don't think I will be the last to shed a tear in that hall," Bulgar said.

He also mentioned how ground was broken for the new textbook rental, which will open in December 2009.

He spoke about the election of Barack Obama as well.

"We got to see an African American in the highest office position for the first time," Bulgar said.

He also mentioned the \$700 billion bailout and the struggling economy.

Sandidge spoke about the Student Senate this semester.

» SEE SENATE, PAGE 2

UNIVERSITY | ADMINISTRATION

New interim faces full plate of problems

Business Affairs Office welcomes change in experienced colleague

By EMILY ZULZ
Administration Editor

The potential budget reserve or reduction.

The Campus Master Plan update.

The power plant project.

The effect of the state's economic situation on Eastern.

These are just a few of the issues Paul McCann will face when he becomes interim vice president for business affairs.

Jeff Cooley, current vice president for business affairs, retires on Dec. 31, 2008.

McCann, director of business services, will become interim on Jan. 1.

"I think Paul is certainly up to the challenge," Cooley said.

He said it's the day-to-day opportunities that come up that McCann will have to deal with.

"The budget is certainly going to be something that's going to occupy his time," Cooley said.

He said McCann would have to try to manage a possible reserve or reduction, as well as also look forward to 2010 and the implications from the state's economic situation.

Cooley said the Master Plan



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Paul McCann, director of business services and treasurer, was named interim vice president for business affairs on Dec. 2 and will take over after Jeff Cooley retires on Dec. 31, 2008.

update would begin soon, which is an important process for the university that McCann will be actively engaged in.

He said McCann would also have a hand in the power plant project as it continues to move forward.

Years of experience

McCann said would be a good challenge for him to expand what he has seen before and the management experiences he has had in previous jobs.

McCann began his career in public accounting and worked in the field for 25 years.

He did a lot of government-

tal and college auditing through the state auditor general's program, which is how he came to work with Eastern.

The local firm McCann was working for, Murphey, Jenne and Jones, was hired to conduct an audit for Eastern around 1981 or 1982.

"Then I was here for roughly 12 to 15 years doing the audit, so it has been a campus, an institution I have come to know from the audit's perspective," McCann said.

He said he always enjoyed coming to Charleston and dealing with the people when he was here.

» SEE MCCANN, PAGE 5

CAMPUS | TECHNOLOGY

New system helps with transfer credits

Students can view program requirements, required courses for new school

By BRITTNI GARCIA
Campus Editor

Eastern has recently added a new system this fall to help transfer and native Eastern students with the confusion on what classes will transfer to other schools.

The u.select system, also known as the Course Applicability System, is designed to help students obtain information about how courses taken will transfer to other institutions and to understand which classes will go toward their college degree.

It became u.select by the time Eastern implemented the program. It was created at Miami University in Ohio. Mary Herrington-Perry brought this system to Eastern after being apart of a state-wide committee.

"When the state of Illinois got involved in the project, I was asked to join a state-wide committee that was looking into purchasing a product like this before they decided which one to go with," she said.

The committee was facilitated by the University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University.

U of I is still responsible for overseeing the program and funding it. Herrington-Perry said it allows students to be more in control of their own academic progress.

"They can see exactly what courses they need to take, what grades they need to earn, how those will apply to their degree requirements," she said. "So it allows them to take charge of their education."

The system is can be useful for faculty and students and is accessible 24-7 from any location.

"You personally have no other way to know exactly what course you take will transfer to Eastern," Herrington-Perry said

This program should also help the records office. Perry recently trained the office staff to understand the functions and to facilitate it for students on campus.

The training will allow them to tell students where to find any information.



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

This program is essentially designed for those transferring to a new school or International students.

"They can see exactly what courses they need to take, what grades they need to earn, how those will apply to their degree requirements."

—Mary Herrington-Perry, committee member

With u.select, students can create an account that will allow them to have a profile of their own to file information needed. The profile will allow access to completed courses and show requests that are provided from schools where you are getting your courses transferred from.

The system shows how courses will transfer, how courses may apply to other majors after transferring, what courses are still needed to complete a degree and how credits may count towards other community institution degrees.

As a member on this system, students are allowed to view course equivalencies, program requirements, and course work.

To understand the information, Herrington-Perry created a handbook for students to view for any questions on how all functions work on the site for Eastern students.

Currently, a total of 226 institutions are using this system, while serving to approximately 2 million students nationwide.

According to the official u.select Web site, it strives "to provide accu-

rate data to students regarding course equivalencies and applicability."

However, student degree audits from Eastern are not provided through this Web site, because no electronically transcripts are provided.

It is all self-reported and not interfaced with Banner. Perry said Eastern was looking into purchasing the system through grants.

"It would have purchased an import request interface, software that would allow us to upload official electronic transcripts," Herrington-Perry said. "Our governor cut the grants that supported that program."

Other schools that use this system in Illinois include Bradley University, Chicago State University, the College of DuPage, DePaul University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Brittni Garci can be reached at 581-7942 or at bmgarcia@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Student Government asks AB for COSGA funds

Student Government will give a presentation and ask for additional funds for the Conference on Student Government Associations at Texas A&M University.

The Apportionment Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Lunchbox Voodoo performs its last shows

Lunchbox Voodoo, a student sketch comedy group, and Hello Dali, a student improv group, will perform at 9 p.m. today in the Black Box of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Lunchbox Voodoo will then make its final performance of the semester at 9 p.m. Saturday in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Both events are free.

Textbooks due back by 3 p.m. Dec. 19

Textbook Rental Service will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dec. 15; from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 16 through 18; and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 19. Late fines will be charged on textbooks returned after Dec. 19, at the rate of \$10 per book. The five-day grace period will expire at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 24. After the five-day grace period, no textbooks will be accepted and all textbook charges - in addition to the previously posted late fine charges - will be posted to the student account.

Artist winners to be announced Sunday

Award winners of the 17th Biennial Drawing/Watercolor: Illinois exhibition will be announced at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Tarble Arts Center.

Artists around Illinois entered more than 100 students into the competition. The awards total \$5,450. The actual exhibition of the artwork will be displayed Saturday and continues until Feb. 22.

The majority of works are representational landscapes, cityscapes, figure studies and still lifes.

EIU Choir presents 'Lessons and Carols'

The Music Department will present its traditional historical rendition of the famous King's College "Service of Lessons and Carols" at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Wesley United Methodist Church located at 2206 Fourth St.

The musicians will perform traditional carols, as well as Buxtehude's "Das Neugeborne Kindelein" and Schütz's "Hodie Christus Natus Est," accompanied by Sinfonia. The ensembles are led by Richard Robert Rossi, conductor.

The concert is sponsored in part by a gift from Christine Gordon and if free of charge.

—Compiled by Associate News Editor Matt Hopf

CAMPUS | ADMINISTRATION

Search for Cooley replacement is progressing

Campus interviews expected in January

By MATT HOPF
Associate News Editor

The search for a replacement for Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs, is progressing as planned.

Robert Augustine, dean of the Graduate School and chair of the search committee, said the search committee has received 36 applications and will continue reviewing them until campus interviews are scheduled for sometime in January.

"We continue to expect that we will schedule on-campus interviews beginning in January and

continuing through February of 2009," he said. "We have not yet determined the total number of on-campus interviews we will hold."

Augustine added the committee was pleased with the qualifications of the applicants.

Cooley announced his retirement in June. It will become effective Dec. 31.

A permanent vice president for businesses affairs is anticipated to start by April 1.

President Bill Perry named Paul McCann interim vice president for business affairs on Dec. 2.

McCann, director of business services/treasurer, said he applied for the permanent position.

Augustine referred to the position's description, which appeared

"We continue to expect that we will schedule on-campus interviews beginning in January and continuing through February of 2009."

—Robert Augustine, dean of Graduate School

in all announcements about the opening.

Candidates for the positions must be qualified in administration, in an environment of federal and state laws and familiar with business, accounting, fiscal policies and university regulations.

Candidates also are required to have experience in risk management, insurance, operating capital budgets and having the oversight

of facilities, including monitoring new construction and the rehabilitation of existing facilities.

The vice president for business affairs must also be able to communicate and work effectively with students, faculty, staff, state agencies, education boards and the private sector.

Matt Hopf can be reached at 581-7942 or at mthopf@eiu.edu.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor in Chief, Kristina Peters, via: Phone | 581-7936, E-mail | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall

The DAILY
EASTERN NEWS

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FACEBOOK EARNED ADMISSIONS

U. Utah – We live in an era in which social networking has become as commonplace as phone calls.

Facebook records there are more than 150 million active users on its social network. On average, Facebook receives more than 150 new applicants every day. MySpace has staggering numbers as well – one in four Americans has a MySpace page.

College admission boards are also utilizing the opportunities that social networking sites provide them. However, it is not to keep in touch with possible applicants. A survey by Kaplan between the months of July and August revealed one out of every 10 admissions officers has viewed an applicant's social network site as part of the admissions process. Of those surveyed, 25 percent reported that the social Web pages viewed had a positive effect on the admissions officer. However, 38 percent said the social Web sites negatively affected their opinion of the candidate.

Susan Baca, the operations coordinator of the admissions office at the S.J. Quinney College of Law said the U's law school does not utilize this approach when ascertaining qualities about a candidate.

"The practice is logistically prohibitive," Baca said. She also said not all of the applicants even have a social networking site to view. Leana Prigmore, supervisor of graduate admissions, said applications and transcripts are the only item viewed.

The practice of viewing an applicant's Web pages offers greater insight into the personality and character of a potential student. If students are going to willingly broadcast their lifestyles on a network to be viewed by anyone, college admissions would do well to take advantage of the insight the sites offer. Test scores, GPA, personal essays and questionnaires only reveal so much about a candidate.

Daily Utah Chronicle

EDITORIAL POLICY

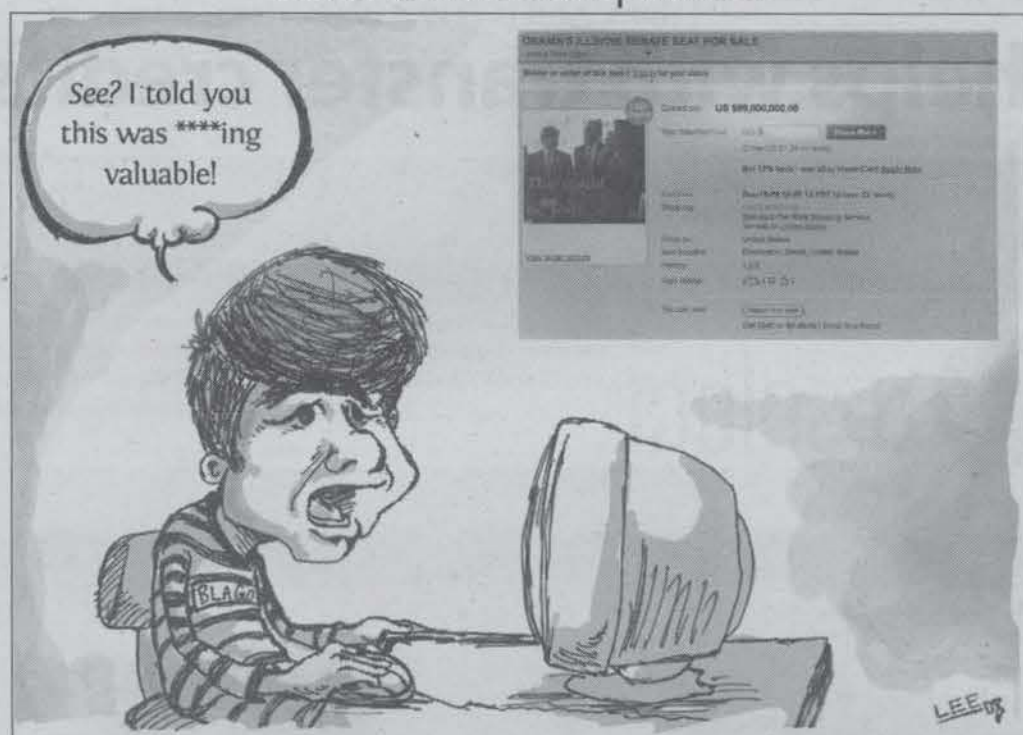
The editorial is the majority opinion of The DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at:
DENopinions@gmail.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in The Daily Eastern News.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to The DEN at 1811 Buzzard Hall. Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

Drawn from the News | Chris Lee



STAFF EDITORIAL

Join us in demanding
Blagojevich's resignation

We're not the first or the last to say this: Gov. Rod Blagojevich needs to resign from office. While we support the legal system's stipulation that defendants are innocent until proven guilty, the evidence against Blagojevich is overwhelming.

Even if he is innocent, we doubt his ability to perform his constitutional duties as governor. But again, the evidence against the governor is so vast and compelling that a repeat of the O.J. Simpson murder trial would be Blagojevich's only hope for freedom.

But because this scandal deals with billions of Illinois tax dollars, we all have a vested interest in finding the truth and putting our state back in good standing. However, Illinois' poor financial situation and Blagojevich's 13 percent approval rating prior to his arrest is what many media outlets say will not help his case.

We agree. The state of Illinois is dire, and having a governor with a bad rap will not get us more interstate commerce or a new U.S. senator. The Senate would not in its right mind accept any appointment by a governor arrested for conspiring to sell that seat.

Not to mention, if the Illinois Senate decides to impeach him, the lengthy and expensive process would take many elected officials and much money away from needed public causes.

So, we feel the best way to combat this governor who is accused of so many heinous crimes is to have the citizens rise up. Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn has asked Blagojevich to "do the right thing." Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, D – Chicago, has called for Blago's resignation and even Charleston's State Rep Chapin Rose, R-Mohment, has already demanded what we're asking for.

"Now, officially facing serious corruption charges, Gov. Rod Blagojevich should immediately do the honorable thing and resign from office," Rose said. "If he refuses to resign, any and all options to remove him from office should be on the table, including impeachment."

What we ask of you, the readers, is to utilize us, the media, and demand Blagojevich's resignation. Submit a 200 word or less letter to the editor in room 1811 Buzzard Hall or e-mail your letter to DENopinions@gmail.com from your Panthermail account.

Tell the Eastern community what you think is the funniest part of Blagojevich's incrimination, the worst action within the laundry list of accused crimes, the Blagojevich quote that most damages Illinois' integrity, the most unexpected piece of evidence and so forth.

Read the seven-page transcript of the phone tap or gather facts from news stories and vent your frustrations in our op-ed section. We even encourage letters defending the governor.

Our goal is to encourage discussion and awareness to what's transpiring because, as Illinois citi-

OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was arrested by the FBI on Tuesday for a number of corruption charges including selling the Senate seat.
• **Stance:** The Eastern community should join The Daily Eastern News in demanding the governor's resignation by writing letters to the editor.

zens, we're all on the national stage. What's almost sad is how the atmosphere at Eastern, and most likely at other Illinois universities, was filled with joy and praise for U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald. Very few people were shocked or surprised by the arrest.

A political science professor was even seen running down the hallways of Coleman Hall while yelling in delight.

The Daily Eastern News' own Jason Duarte decided to show his animosity by posting a sale for President-elect Barack Obama's U.S. Senate seat on eBay. Duarte started the bid at 99 cents and by the time eBay decided to shut the account down, the price had soared to \$99,999,999. However, the winner of the bid would have been mailed a photograph of Obama and Blagojevich.

Duarte said he was informed by eBay that his post was receiving more than 4,000 hits per hour, which landed him in a Southtown Star article and in a CNN national broadcast.

The citizens of Illinois must not stand by while our government falls to shambles. As voters and taxpayers we need to stand up for what will keep our state functioning and not let this arrest become "business as usual."

Larry King was even surprised when he said these accusations are worse than any Chicago pay-to-play stereotype he'd ever heard.

For crying out loud, Blagojevich might become cellmates with his predecessor former Gov. George Ryan, who has served a little more than a year of his six and a half year sentence on federal fraud, racketeering and related corruption charges after being convicted by a jury in 2006.

Not rising up in protest would almost be worse than what either governor has done because a lack of public accountability becomes a mockery of the democracy we cherish so much as Americans.

Start a campus march calling for Blagojevich's resignation, like 300 Eastern students did in October of 1968 while conducting one of the nation's first protests to the Vietnam War.

Roam the campus asking students to sign petitions that you'd mail to Blagojevich's office. Create public meetings in 7th Street Underground or in university lecture halls to talk about the facts of this case. When you go home, put signs up in your yard or buy anti-Blagojevich bumper stickers.

But at very least, send us a letter to the editor for our Friday or Monday publications. We want Blagojevich out of office, don't you?



MATT HOPF

More of the
same Illinois

More than once I have been critical of the state government in Illinois and Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

So, when my roommate knocked on my door Tuesday morning with big news, I was not surprised that Blagojevich was arrested along with his chief of staff John Harris.

Public corruption remains a black eye for Illinois in the national news and despite three previous governors serving time in federal prison, some things never change.

Blagojevich joins many other Illinois governors who have been in trouble with the law.

The Chicago Tribune ran a small piece after Blagojevich was arrested on seven other Illinois governors in Illinois' history who had run-ins with the law, including former Gov. George Ryan who currently is serving time in federal prison after a 2006 conviction on 18 felony counts including racketeering and tax and mail fraud.

Former Illinois Govs. Otto Kerner and Daniel Walker both served time in federal prison as well.

Kerner, governor from 1961-68, was convicted of bribery, income tax evasion, mail fraud, conspiracy and perjury in 1973. The charges were in connection with money he earned from racetrack stock.

Walker, governor from 1973-77, was convicted of misusing funds from the First American Savings and Loan Association of Oak Brook in 1987.

Former Govs. Lennington Small and William Stratton are a rarity in the seven governors. They were acquitted of charges.

Small, a two-term governor in the 1920s, was indicted on charges of running a money-laundering scheme while he served as state treasurer.

Stratton, governor from 1953-1961, received tax evasion charges in regards to how he spent his campaign cash.

The 19th century saw governors end up in court.

Gov. Joseph Duncan, who served from 1834-38, was sued in 1841 after he signed a surety bond. The bond made him liable for his brother-in-law, who was to collect money for the federal government.

Gov. Joel Matteson who served from 1853-57 owed the state \$253,000 after a court ruled that he turned in blank or non-canceled scrips, which were used to pay contractors.

It wasn't just governors who have spent time in court.

The Associated Press reported that about \$750,000 was found in shoeboxes at former Secretary of State Paul Powell's house after he died in 1970, and former state auditor Orville Hodge pleaded guilty to embezzling more than \$1.5 million from the state.

It isn't just today. It's not just George Ryan and Rod Blagojevich. It's been happening for years.

After previous convictions in recent memory, one would think Blagojevich would pay attention, and not use the pay-to-play system. He chose not to.

Illinois now waits for what will happen.

Whether he resigns, is impeached or the courts step in, he is still the governor of Illinois. Those who suffer, though, are the citizens of Illinois, but we're used to this. Right?

Matt Hopf is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

» **McCann**

FROM PAGE 1

"I always thought at some point it might be a good possibility or a good idea to come back here and look for a job, but never really thought that that was going to be the case just because of public accounting," McCann said.

He said the goal with most certified public accountants is to become a partner in a firm and then "grow old and retire."

That did not happen for McCann when Murphey, Jenne and Jones sold the company.

The company Main Hurdman bought the company, and was then purchased by Peat Marwick, a large international CPA firm.

"Well, I changed names three times and never left the same desk," McCann said. "It was one of those things that the current world economy creates where your things are purchased out from under you, you change names, but you keep going on. You still do the same thing."

McCann then ended up in the Quad Cities working on colleges and universities for Peat Marwick.

"I was up there for about four or five years and decided that the world of big time accounting, the big four, was not really what I wanted to do," McCann said. "I wanted to get back down to where I was comfortable with smaller institutions with smaller accounting firms."

McCann then came back to auditing Eastern through Doehring Winders and Company, a Mattoon-based firm.

He then decided to make a switch to a large insurance agency and was chief financial officer for Behnke and Company in Decatur.

After the owner passed away, McCann parted ways with the insurance agency.

"But I learned a lot there from the standpoint of customer service," McCann said. "When you're in that type of business, you learn a lot about customer service and how you deal with people and the problems that they actually have."

He said dealing with people and real-life problems and issues was enlightening and helped move his career away from the public accounting area and into a more customer service angle.

After leaving Behnke and Company, McCann went into public accounting for himself for a while.

Business services

When the director of business services position came available, McCann applied and was hired in June of 2006.

He worked in public accounting for about 25 years, then with an insurance agency for about five years and has been in his current position for two and a half years.

"With (a payroll) background and my accounting background, it made a lot of sense to come into the environment here at Eastern where I was working with the auditors, working with the accountants, putting together financial statements, doing payroll, taking care of benefits for the employees," McCann said. "It was really a pretty good match."

One of McCann's biggest successes since coming to Eastern is the conversion of payroll to the current Banner system. The old computer program that was used was dated back to the early 1980s and had never been modified before.

"With the dedication of the staff and hopefully some input from me we were able to get those changes made to move over to Banner," McCann said.

As business services director, McCann has also been active in the proposed power plant.

"We spent a considerable amount of time analyzing the power plant and trying to figure out financing for it and trying to get it to move forward," he said.

On to being interim

Now, McCann will become interim vice president for business affairs.

"Certainly, this is going to be the largest environment that I've been in, but it doesn't really scare me from the standpoint of what has to

"I think Paul is very detail-oriented and one of those things that I appreciate about Paul is the thoroughness at which he performs his duties. I think that he is very diligent in fulfilling his duties. I appreciate his work ethic."

— **Jeff Cooley,**
current vice president for business affairs

be done," McCann said. "I've had a great teacher in Jeff Cooley. He's shown me a lot of how the university works ... I think that he's shown me a lot in what needs to be done around the campus and how to deal with many of the issues."

McCann said the interim position would last probably between two to four months.

"As a practical matter, there's probably not a whole lot I can instigate and get done in that period of time," he said.

One of his goals is to continue to move forward on the Renewable Energy Center.

Another thing he wants to see continued is the customer service initiative.

"I want to make sure that people don't think of the business affairs area just as accountants or just as payroll processors," he said. "I want to make sure that we are providing service to the campus and to the constituencies."

Particularly with the recent budget issue, McCann said it is important to make sure there is a good understanding of how various costs are allocated.

"We've got to address some of those issues," he said. "We've got to talk to the various people on campus and make sure that they're aware of what the effects of the budget issues that come down from Springfield are."

McCann said the budget would be a priority of the office in the near future and the office must communicate with the campus about it.

"We can't just dictate from Old Main up on high what's going to

happen," McCann said. "We've got to work through this and understand the plight that gets passed down to everyone on campus. What's the effect of losing a million dollars? Are there fewer classes, fewer sections of a class? Do we need to reduce some overhead from an administrative standpoint? What are the issues that we can deal with to try to make the loss of some funding as painless as we possibly can?"

More than one hat

McCann will be holding more than one position for a while.

McCann's duties as director of business services will continue when he becomes interim vice president.

Cooley said McCann does not mind spending the hours that are needed in order to get the job done.

"So I think that's something that will serve him well as he's going to be wearing more than one hat here for awhile," Cooley said.

McCann said he plans to hopefully before the first of the year announce some interim positions.

On top of McCann's transfer to interim, the business office also lost Larry Cannon, director of accounting and two assistant controllers.

"We're losing a lot of experience within the business area, so we're going to have to make some interim appointments, and then start our search process for all of those positions," he said. "Exactly how we do it, we haven't decided yet."

Strong work ethic

Cooley said he has known McCann for "many, many, many

years." Cooley said he has known McCann since they did public accounting together. He said he knew McCann from his work on the audit for the university.

"I think Paul is very detail-oriented and one of the things that I appreciate about Paul is the thoroughness at which he performs his duties," Cooley said. "I think that he is very diligent in fulfilling his duties. I appreciate his work ethic."

Cooley said McCann is dedicated to his job and the institution and is very knowledgeable of the accounting aspects of business operations necessary to perform his role.

"I think also more important than the technical aspects are the personality traits that Paul has," Cooley said. "I think he has wonderful ability to work with people and various constituency groups. I think that his ability to work with people is as important or more important than a lot of his technical abilities."

Linda Holloway, assistant director of payroll/benefits, has worked with McCann since he came to Eastern about three years ago. She said she has a great working relationship with McCann.

"Paul has a very open door style of management," she said. "He's very personable and yet professional in everything he does. His accounting and audit background brings a conciseness to the work he does and the work he expects out of others."

Holloway said she is confident with McCann becoming interim.

"I thought with the state economics in the condition it is in, and especially not knowing how the governor's decisions will affect EIU, this decision brings the necessary continuity to the Business Affairs area," she said. "Paul has worked very closely with Mr. Cooley, and therefore I feel confident the transition will go smoothly and business will go on as usual. I think that is important for EIU right now."

Emily Zulz can be reached at 581-7942 or at eazulz@eiu.edu.

» **Edgar**

FROM PAGE 1

As for Blagojevich, many state legislators have demanded his resignation. On Wednesday, Blagojev-

ich's birthday, the governor returned to work and met with his staff at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago. Blagojevich has made no indication of wanting to resign.

Edgar said Blagojevich should resign, but concluded he probably

will not quit as governor.

"I'll be surprised if he voluntarily stepped down," he said.

He said the voter population should have been more critical when Blagojevich was re-elected in 2006. The media did an adequate

job of bringing out and discussing the ethical issues Blagojevich had prior to 2006, Edgar said. He was surprised when Blagojevich was re-elected, he added.


Edgar said if the governor does not resign, the General Assembly

should impeach Blagojevich.

"He doesn't have the ability to be governor anymore," he said.

Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or at sdibenedetto@eiu.edu.

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LOCAL | BUSINESSES

Shopping center plans on hold due to economy

New businesses in Charleston, Mattoon affected by recession

By **KRYSTAL MOYA**
City Editor

Mattoon and Charleston construction plans for shopping, dining and hotel services have slowed over the winter season.

Mattoon's approval to build Coles Centre and Charleston's plans for a shopping center and hotel have been subject to the slow economy, making further approval, construction and leasing fall well beyond the timeline.

"We understand that today's economy doesn't exactly support growth," said Charleston Mayor John Inyart.

Mattoon's Coles Centre is a hotel,

"We understand that today's economy doesn't exactly support growth."

— Charleston Mayor John Inyart

restaurant and convention center combination that would serve the city's business districts.

Charleston's shopping center would focus on bringing brand name retail and restaurant dining to the area near Wal-Mart and University Village.

Both centers face economic difficulty for different reasons. Mattoon faces the fiscal problems of the future, with the concept plan placed in the Interstate 57 East Tax Increment Financing District.

Because the TIF district is an area for growing commercial properties, the building of Coles Centre might hinder future roadwork that would be needed to aid the new construction.

In October meetings, Mattoon's City Council expressed concern over approving too early because of the imminent roadway repair if the area grew. This could leave Mattoon short in the projected revenue they could receive from the TIF.

However, the Mattoon City's Planners

Commission has approved the concept plan on the convention center, though with stipulations to road name changes if need be.

Charleston's shopping center was already subject to the loss of the hotel.

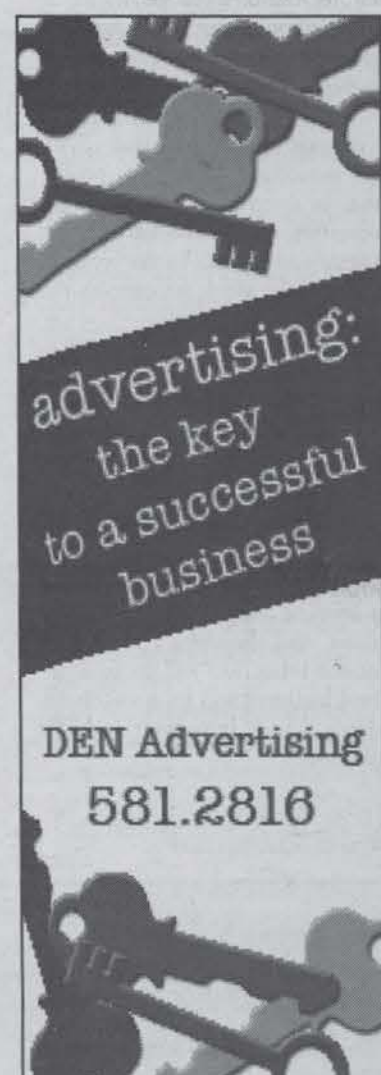
The hotel chain pulled out of concept plans in September.

Now, the shopping center faces a slow leasing process as the economy threatens retailers nationally.

Contractor Thomas Realty Group has stretched the leasing process first announced in January to end in early spring of 2009.

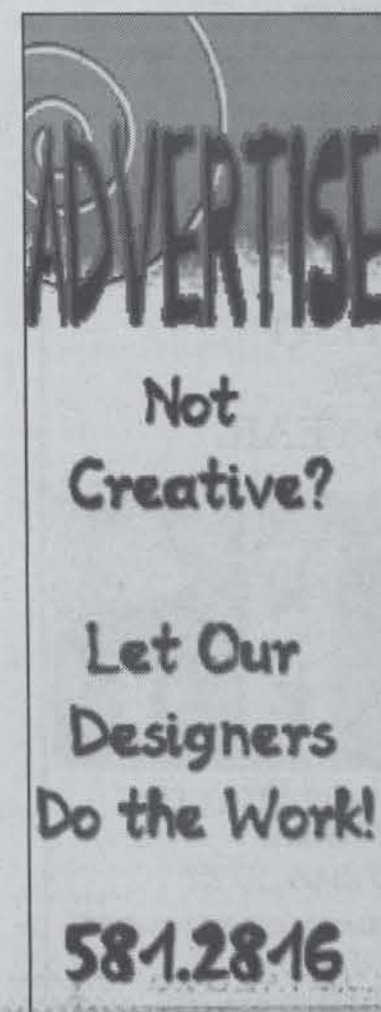
"It's about a 50/50 chance still on whether we will be able to fill all the storefronts by then," said leasing agent Tony Gagliano.

Krystal Moya can be reached at 581-7945 or at kmoaya@elu.edu.



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CAMPUS | EVENT

The Vehicle steers toward recognition

Writers' work to be showcased at event

By JENNIFER NEWSOM
Staff Reporter

As the semester comes to a close, writers of *The Vehicle* will showcase their pieces or work tonight.

Glen Davis, a graduate of the English department, will also be fea-

tured at the event, which begins at 5 p.m. in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Rebecca Griffith, editor-in-chief of *The Vehicle*, said writers of the fall and spring issues of the student literary journal are given special recognition at the English department awards tea.

"In the spring of 2008, Glen won second place in the category of 'Best

Prose' for a story of his published in that semester's *Vehicle*," Griffith said.

Members of Sigma Tau Delta, the English honors society, read all of the work that is submitted to *The Vehicle*, and they make the decision on who is published in *The Vehicle*.

The journal is published once a semester.

If students want to be published in *The Vehicle*, there is a Facebook group that anyone can join.

"While submissions are being accepted, a box is set up in the English department office where students can drop off their work," Griffith said.

The number of submissions for *The Vehicle* varies each semester, but this semester there are 15 writers featured, Griffith said.

Jennifer Newsom can be reached at 581-7942 or at dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

NATION | MILITARY

Senators urge swift probe of fighter crash

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — California Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer joined the call for the Marine Corps to review its entire fleet of F/A18-D Hornet jets for possible problems after a fiery crash killed two young girls, their mother and their grandmother.

In a joint letter Wednesday, the two senators asked Gen. James Conway, Marines commandant, to quickly complete the investigation of Monday's

crash and make the results public.

"We can all agree that in urban areas like San Diego County, where the military and civilian populations closely coexist, it is absolutely vital that all precautionary steps are taken to ensure the safety of both our civilian and military residents," the letter read.

Marine spokesman Maj. David Nevers had no immediate comment on the request.

Initial reports suggest the jet may have suffered engine failure on a training exercise after take-

off from the carrier USS Abraham Lincoln about 50 miles offshore from San Diego. The jet was returning from an offshore training mission when it clipped a tree and slammed into the neighborhood about two miles from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter, the ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee, previously called on the Marine Corps to release the maintenance records of its F/A-18D Hornet fighters.

STATE BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Mayor Daley names new chief of staff

CHICAGO — Chicago Mayor Richard Daley has named a new chief of staff to replace his top aide, who is leaving to become president of the Chicago 2016 committee. Daley appointed Paul Volpe to the post on Wednesday. Volpe has been the city's chief financial officer. Before that, the 45-year-old was the city's budget director. Volpe replaces Lori Healy who has been Daley's chief of staff since last year.

Hunters take at least 105,595 deer

SPRINGFIELD — State officials say Illinois hunters took at least 105,595 deer during the state's seven-day firearm hunting season that ran Nov. 21-23 and Dec. 4-7.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources says that preliminary harvest total includes deer taken in all 99 Illinois counties in which deer hunting is permitted, as well as in Chain O'Lakes State Park in Lake County.

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» Marion

FROM PAGE 12

He also said Eastern needs to do a better job breaking free and setting screens on offense.

Miller said he was disappointed with the offense in that they were not screening well, cutting well and making easy plays.

Junior guard Romain Martin finished with 26 points for the Panthers, while senior forward Billy Parrish had seven points to go with nine rebounds.

Cisse led the team with 11 rebounds, but he scored just two points.

For the second consecutive game, the Panthers surrendered more than 30 points to an opposing player. On Saturday Eastern allowed Austin Peay senior forward

"Playing hard is where it starts and we played with energy, but we didn't get many easy baskets."

— Mike Miller,
Eastern men's basketball coach

Drake Reed to score 37 points in an 81-73 loss to Austin Peay.

Wednesday, Holsinger dropped 31 points on the Panthers.

Eastern will return to action at 7 p.m. Saturday against Western Illinois at Lantz Arena.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eiu.edu.

» Cruise

FROM PAGE 12

Sims finished with 13 points and eight rebounds, including seven on the offensive end.

Sallee said that one of his goals was for his team to crash the offensive boards and Sims said she made it her focus to do so.

"I came out and said that my goal tonight was to get as many offensive rebounds as I can, so

that's what I did," Sims said.

Senior guard Ellen Canale finished with 13 points for the Panthers to go along with eight rebounds and three steals.

The Panthers cap off a four-game home stand Saturday when they take on Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne.

Tip-off is scheduled for 3 p.m. at Lantz Arena.

Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or at cfwhitchurch@eiu.edu.

"I came out and said that my goal tonight was to get as many offensive rebounds as I can, so that's what I did."

— Dominique Sims,
Eastern women's basketball junior guard

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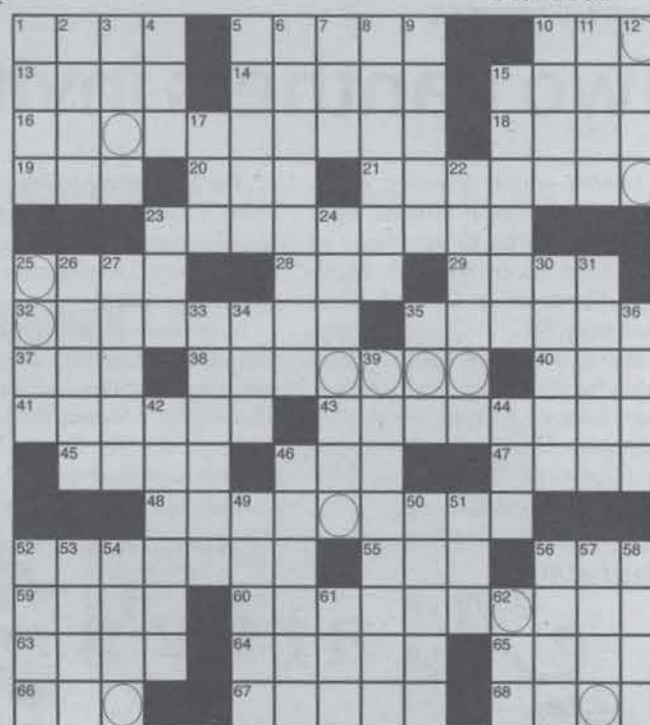


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1106

- ACROSS
- What the 13 circled things in this puzzle constitute
 - Light from a lantern, say
 - Pound delivery
 - Latin word on a cornerstone
 - Invitation info
 - "Bad Girl" singer
 - Gofer
 - Actor Hirsch of "Into the Wild"
 - Grp. for court pros
 - Actor known as the King of Cool
 - Baby-sits
 - Barefaced
- DOWN
- Adams, signature on the Declaration of Independence
 - Like calling a woman a "chick," say
 - Having depth
 - Blouse, e.g.
 - Reach
 - Breaks up flights
 - When the French fry?
 - Winged mammoth



PUZZLE BY JEREMY NEWTON

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- Wine region where Riesling is made
- Says "My bad!"
- Deck (out)
- Some engines
- Big ring stone, slangily
- Juvenile, in horse racing
- Unbelievable
- H
- Building with walls for a ceiling
- Fill a flat again?
- Rulers like Juan Carlos
- Actress Mendes of "Hitch"
- Skinny-dipped
- In
- "Through the Looking-Glass" antagonist
- Greek summit
- No-good
- Airborne irritant
- plate
- Hike

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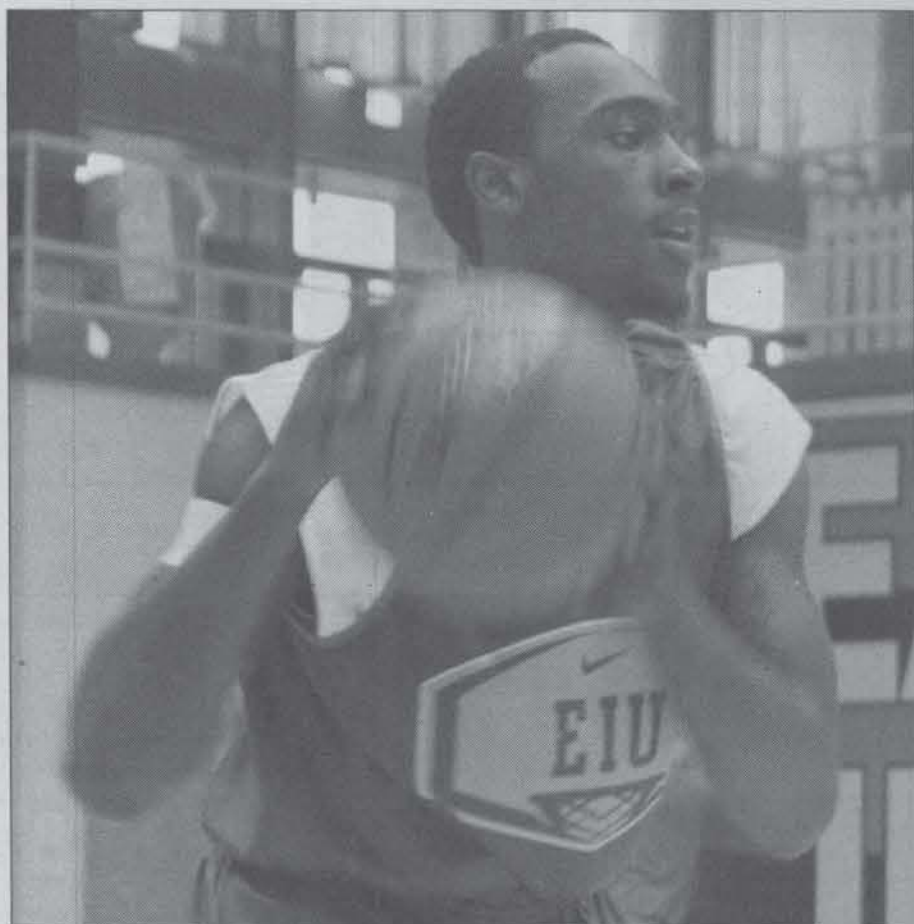
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T.J. MARION

Top Cat is a weekly feature that showcases one of the top athletes from the past week and gives a profile of the top player and moments from the sporting event.

PANTHERS GET BOOST FROM BENCH



AMIR PRELBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior guard T.J. Marion does some drills during practice at Lantz Arena Tuesday afternoon. He was named Ohio Valley Conference Newcomer of the Week and scored 27 points against Evansville in Wednesday's 80-76 loss at Evansville, Ind.

Transfer guard delivers on both sides of the floor

By BOB SHAUGHNESSY
Staff Reporter

The Eastern men's basketball team received a big boost when they landed junior guard T.J. Marion.

Marion, a transfer from Southeastern Illinois College, helped the Panthers to their first conference win last week over Tennessee State. Marion scored 12 points and pulled down six rebounds to help lead the Panthers to a 71-61 victory against the Tigers on Dec. 3.

Saturday night, Marion came off the bench to lead the team with 20 points, but his strong second half effort came in an 81-73 loss, as the Panthers could not hold off conference leader Austin Peay.

"I played good, but individual play doesn't really matter," Marion said. "I just want to win and have the team play good."

To start his Ohio Valley Conference career, Marion averaged 16 points, 4.5 rebounds and three assists in the Panthers' two games last week to earn OVC Newcomer of the Week honors. In the two games, he shot 60 percent from the field (12-of-20) and 80 percent from the free throw line (8-of-10).

"I think we are starting to play together like a team, and as the season goes on it should get better," Marion said. "I like scoring points and it would be nice to be one of the top newcomers of the conference, but I'm not too worried

about scoring right now. My main focus is on defense."

While Marion is scoring 10.1 points per game this season and shooting 49 percent from the field, he said his main focus is still on defense, where he is first on the team in blocks and third on the team in steals with five of each.

Marion's dedication to defense is what led Eastern to recruiting him and also helped lead Southeastern Illinois College to become the fifth-ranked defense in the nation last year, while finishing with a trip to the NJCCA Tournament.

The 6-foot-4 Aurora native did a little bit of everything for Southeastern Illinois College – the same production he's now giving for the Panthers. Marion averaged 10.7 points, 4.9 rebounds three assists and 1.8 steals in his final season at Southeastern Illinois College.

In his first season of junior college basketball, Marion scored 9.5 points per game, while pulling down 4.4 rebounds and handing out 2.2 assists per game as well.

The next games for the Panthers will be against Western Illinois and Chicago State. Both games will be played at Lantz Area where Marion is averaging 13.3 points, 4.5 rebounds and where he has four of his five steals.

On Jan. 1, the Panthers will get back to conference play when they visit Jacksonville State. That will give Marion a chance to pursue his second OVC weekly award.

Bob Shaughnessy can be reached at 581-7944 or at rrshaughnessy@eiu.edu

PANTHER BRIEFS

Two Panthers invited to pro soccer league showcase

Eastern senior defender Adam Gartner and senior forward Brad Peters were invited to participate in the United Soccer League's Men's Player Showcase on Dec. 14-16 in Charleston, S.C.

The two Eastern men's soccer players were among the 90 participants selected to play out of 250 applicants. The event is hosted by the Charleston Battery – a USL First Division Team.

The Showcase provides top professional coaches the opportunity to scout potential professionals from the Premier Development League and college teams.

Numerous players typically get professional contracts after participating in the Showcase whether in Major League Soccer, the USL First Division, the USL Second Division and with international clubs.

The majority of the players

selected for the Showcase are drawn from the USL's Premier Development League. This year, 68 of the 90 players selected have PDL experience.

Peters has played for a PDL team in each of the past three summers – the Colorado Rapids (2008), Ocean City Barons (2007) and St. Louis Lions (2006).

Gartner has one year of experience in the PDL, as he played for

the Indiana Invaders this past summer.

Both Peters and Gartner were both multiple All-Missouri Valley Conference award winners.

Peters was a First Team selection from 2006-08 and was the Panthers first three-time honoree in the Valley era (1996-present).

Gartner earned Second Team honors in 2007 and was an Honorable Mention in 2005 and 2008.

Peters finished his Eastern career with 33 goals scored and 18 assists. He had three consecutive double digit goal seasons.

Gartner, who played as both a defender and a midfielder, ended his career with eight goals and 18 assists.

– Compiled by Sports Editor Scott Richey. He can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

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FOOTBALL | RECRUITING



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman wide receiver Shawn Williams returns a punt against Murray State during the Panthers' 34-6 win against the Racers on Nov. 1 at O'Brien Stadium. Eastern head coach Bob Spoo said Williams could play a bigger part of the Panthers' offense next season.

Coaches hit recruiting trail

Oklahoma, Iowa, Indiana recruits get closer look

By SCOTT RICHEY
Sports Editor

Illinois and Florida have been the standard recruiting hotbeds for Eastern's football program. Wisconsin, Ohio and the west coast have also become more prominent in the past years.

As Eastern's coaches continue to hit the recruiting trail this winter, Oklahoma, Iowa and Indiana will also be added to the mix.

Not counting recruiting dead periods, Eastern's coaches have 55 days to solidify the Panthers' 2009 recruiting class.

"I think we have to get this part of the calendar done, this recruiting effort," Eastern head coach Bob Spoo said. "Bring in some of the best players we can find out there and get back on a competitive level again."

Spoo said one thing he thought he saw this season was a number of Ohio Valley Conference teams that had improved. He said these teams improved personnel-wise, which Eastern did not do.

"We've got to find the guys now that can compete again and get us back to where we're competing for a conference championship every year," Spoo said. "The league has gotten stronger, and we have to get our recruiting solidified, get the players signed on that first Wednesday in February and bring them in and coach the heck out of them."

With his intention to take another

"I think we have to get this part of the calendar done, this recruiting effort. Bring in some of the best players we can find out there and get back on a competitive level again."

— Bob Spoo, Eastern football head coach

look at switching to the spread offense, Spoo said one position Eastern needs to look at improving is wide receiver.

Spoo said the Panthers had good players at that position but perhaps not the type of players needed for the proposed change to the offense.

"It seems like the teams we played and lost to had guys that were faster and better catches," Spoo said. "I think we were lacking in that position to be honest. We've got to come up with guys that can spread the field and move the secondary out of there."

Spoo said one receiving characteristic he wanted to focus on was yards after catch. He said receivers with the ability to get extra yardage beyond the point of the initial catch are what the Panthers need.

"Shawn Williams is a guy that comes to mind that can give us that element," Spoo said of the Panthers' freshman wide receiver and punt returner. "I expect him to be a much more productive player for us next year."

Spoo said red-shirt freshman wide receiver Lorence Ricks could also be a key contributor for the Panthers next season.

Spoo said he expects freshman wide receiver Von Wise, who missed the entire 2008 season with a leg injury, to also be a major contributor

next season.

"He's tall, and he runs well," Spoo said about Wise. "I don't know if (his injury) affected his speed at this point. Just from the brief time that he had in preseason camp, he would have been a guy that would have been playing a great deal for us. I'm looking forward to him resurrecting his purpose in coming here and providing some needed energy at that position."

One area of Eastern's offense Spoo said he wasn't too worried about was the Panthers' running backs.

Eastern returns red-shirt sophomore Chevon Walker and freshman Desmin Ward, who led the Panthers with touchdowns this season (11). Walker was second on the team in rushing yards with 399 (63 more yards than Ward).

"We should have a fine group of running backs," Spoo said. "We're also bringing in a guy that we recruited in the fall who was declared ineligible and had to wait a whole semester to come out."

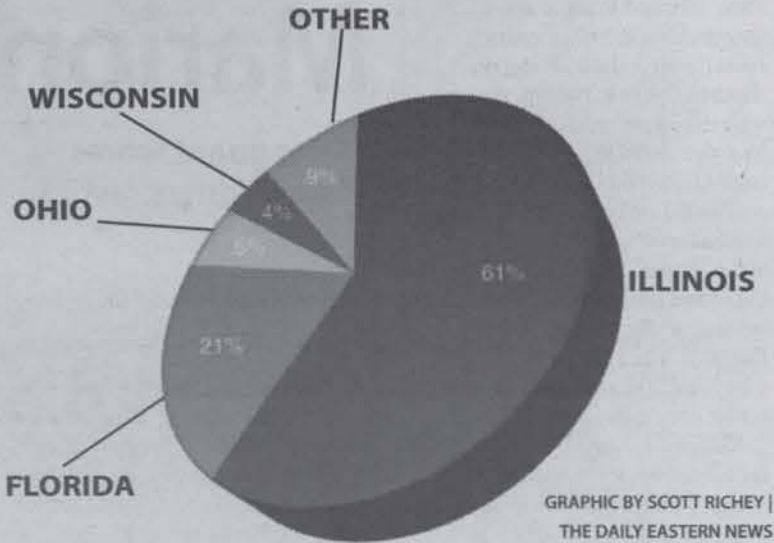
Kenny Williams, who signed a National Letter of Intent out of Elgin High School in February, did not qualify to play this season but will join the team in time for spring practice.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Panthers have to replace four graduating seniors from the defensive

2008 EASTERN FOOTBALL ROSTER BY STATE

Alabama (1) Donovan Johnson	Brady Woolverton Haakim Lewis Greg Mahan Cory Leman Nick Nasti Alex Luhring James Larson Seth Knolhoff Otis Hudson Jason Marcordes Chris Campbell Mike O'Neill Mike Scheibel Chris Vaccaro Kevin Novavich Pat Phillips Chaz Millard Ryan Grossman Eric Rettke Darien Smith Alex Jones Sean McGrath Charles Graves Daniel Vehovic Spyros Bazigos Pierre Walters Ryan Bennett Colin Luczynski Perry Burge Trevor Frericks
California (1) Taylor Dunn	
Florida (19) Shawn Williams KeAndre Sams Chevon Walker Carlos Reyna Alicus Nozinor Tavorus Bess Seymour Loftman Torie Haywood Bobson Mercier Nick Martinez Sean Campbell Alain Marcelin William Hodor Pierson Sherwood Lorence Ricks Chavar Watkins D'Angelo McCray Andre Lima Nathan Galan	
Idaho (1) Zach Yates	
Illinois (56) Adrian Arrington Bodie Reeder Luke Hockaday D.J. Brown Quinten Ponius Joel Evers Adam Kesler CJ James Norris Smith Kenny Kinchen Irvin Jean-Charles Shelton Penrow Rashad Haynes Louis Cairo Rashaad Rigsby Tyler Wilke Nathan Shortridge Shannon Cobb Bobby Earnest James Cooper Kevin Cook Trent Steckel Chip Keys Keagan Robinson Gordy Kickels Jonathan Ridgner	
	Indiana (2) Jack Kosinski Willie Henderson
	Iowa (1) Austin Signor
	Missouri (1) Jeff Sobol
	Ohio (5) Von Wise Doug Reynolds Ron Jordan Kevin Kapellas Kevin Mahoney
	Texas (1) Perry Maynard
	Wisconsin (4) Desmin Ward Shane Kelly Eric Zink Mitch Quill

EASTERN FOOTBALL ROSTER BREAKDOWN



sive line including three starters in defensive ends Pierre Walters and Donovan Johnson and defensive tackle Jeff Sobol.

Spoo said size would not be the main focus when recruiting defensive linemen. Johnson would be an example of this as he stood just 6-foot-1 and weighed 225 pounds but led the Panthers in sacks and was second on the team in tackles for loss and quarterback hurries.

"Not so much size, although you need to have a certain amount of size, but you need to be quick," Spoo said. "You need to be able to really run and change direction. We're losing some very key players, but hopefully we can find guys - if they're not already in our program - that can come through for us."

One player already on the Panthers' roster fits the mold Spoo wants at defensive end.

Freshman defensive end Perry

Burge moved up from playing on the Panthers' practice squad to being part of Eastern's regular rotation on the defensive line.

The Bolingbrook native played in 10 of the Panthers' 12 games and had 14 tackles including four for loss.

Burge also had one sack for an eight-yard loss and one pass broken up.

Spoo said he is energized at this time of the year, especially following a disappointing 5-7 season.

"I think we're a little bit more focused on the positions that we need," Spoo said. "There is a real focus. Until recruiting has officially ended, the signing day that first Wednesday in February, then we can start talking about football and what we need to do."

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srichey@eiu.edu.



COLLIN WHITCHURCH

Letdown doesn't happen

After a weekend of intense conference action, and going up against a clearly inferior opponent, the prospects of a letdown were out there.

After two consecutive games against conference rivals, including a particularly fierce 81-70 victory against Austin Peay, one had to wonder if the Eastern women's basketball team would lose its focus a little bit while facing SIU Edwardsville — a 1-8 squad that had already lost to two Ohio Valley Conference teams.

That wasn't the case.

The Panthers overcame a less-than-spectacular start to run away with a 76-58 victory against the Cougars on Wednesday night at Lantz Arena.

The impressive aspect of the game was not the margin of victory or the performance of senior forward Rachel Galligan (21 points on 10-of-14 shooting), while both were stellar.

Instead, it was the fact that the intensity the team displayed in shutting down Tennessee State and Austin Peay was just as prominent in a game with far less on the line.

The Panthers played the kind of game one expects to see in a conference championship. Eastern fought for rebounds, dove for loose balls, and stuck to the Cougars on defense. Senior guard Ellen Canale led the charge on the defensive end, coming up with three steals to hold the Cougars' three starting guards to a combined 8-of-27 shooting.

"We did not come out in the first half with very much intensity and it showed," Canale said. "In the second half, we came out and we made it our goal (to play with intensity), and I think we played a lot better and a lot more intense — a lot more aggressive."

Galligan, senior forward Lindsey Kluempers and junior forward Maggie Kloak combined to shut down the Cougars' leading scorer, senior forward Jenny Wuest.

Wuest entered the game averaging 14.4 points and 7.4 rebounds. She finished Wednesday night with just four points and three rebounds in 19 minutes played.

Saturday, the Panthers play another less-than-spectacular opponent in the 2-8 Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne Mastadons (3 p.m. at Lantz Arena). If Wednesday night's game is any indication, the Panthers should come out victorious yet again.

Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or at cwhitchurch@eiu.edu.



ERIC HITLNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Junior guard Ashley Thomas attempts to get around a block by an Austin Peay player during the game on Dec. 6 in Lantz Arena. Thomas scored nine points in the Panthers' 76-58 home win over SIUE Wednesday night.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | EASTERN 76, SIUE 58

Panthers cruise past Lady Cougars

Galligan's 21 leads team to 7-3 start

By COLLIN WHITCHURCH
Staff Reporter

Rachel Galligan scored 15 of her 21 points in the second half as the Eastern women's basketball team cruised to a 76-58 victory over Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Wednesday night at Lantz Arena.

The Panthers led by as many as 30 points in the second half as they improved to 7-3 on the season. The Lady Cougars fell to 1-8.

Eastern took advantage of a distinct size advantage against the Lady Cougars, giving the ball to Galligan early and often.

Players guarding Galligan throughout the game were 3-4 inches shorter than her and the Panthers took advantage of it.

"We knew we had an advantage in the post size-wise and that was the plan," said Galligan, who also had three blocks. "It doesn't really change a whole lot from game-to-game and especially today when we had that big of a size advantage. The guards did a really good job of just getting it to the spot

and I finished most of them."

The Lady Cougars came out with a lot of intensity on defense early on and the Panthers struggled in making just one of their first five shots. Likewise, SIUE ran an offense the Panthers were not accustomed to seeing* and jumped out to a quick 7-5 lead, the first time the Panthers had trailed in three games.

"I was really impressed with SIUE," head coach Brady Saltee said. "Even when I was watching film I thought they played really, really hard. They run some good stuff like we saw and they've got some players that can shoot the ball."

From that point forward it was all Panthers as they took a 9-7 lead and never looked back. Red-shirt junior guard Dominique Sims said that their offense gave the team trouble at times.

"We're usually not used to the ball screens and it's like a weave-type of offense," Sims said. "So when you have to come over certain ball screens, it was easier to come under and I think that got us for a little bit but we pulled it together when we got yelled at on the bench."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL | EVANSVILLE 80, EASTERN 76

Marion sparks near comeback

Junior guard scores 16 of Panthers' last 21 points

By DAN CUSACK
Assistant Sports Editor

The Eastern men's basketball team kept it close against Evansville on Wednesday night in Evansville, Ind., but for the second straight game was not able to battle back in the second half as the Panthers lost 80-76.

The Panthers trimmed the Purple Aces' lead to 74-71 with 39 seconds left, but junior guard T.J. Marion was called for palming the ball to give Evansville possession.

On the ensuing inbound play, Eastern junior center Ousmane Cisse was called for an intentional foul on Evansville freshman forward James Haarsma. Haarsma hit both free throws to put the Purple Aces ahead five points.

Marion responded with two free throws, but Evansville senior guard Jason Holinsinger hit two more free throws on Evansville's next possession.

Marion scored 16 of the Panthers' last 21 points, as they trailed



KARLA BROWNING | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Junior guard T.J. Marion drives Austin Peay's Caleb Brown during the Dec. 6 game in Lantz Arena. Marion had 27 points and six rebounds in an 80-76 loss to Evansville Wednesday in Evansville, Ind.

between two and six points throughout the last 10 minutes of the game. He finished with a team-high 27

points in addition to six assists and five rebounds.

"T.J. was the man tonight,"

Eastern coach Mike Miller said in his postgame radio show. "When things got tough, he took it to the basket. That's a big part of our game. We have to have more guys do it."

The Panthers (2-6) trailed by as many as 10 points in the first half after the Purple Aces (6-1) came out to a commanding 12-2 lead, but Eastern was able to battle back to cut the lead to 45-37 to end the first half.

Evansville lead by as many as 12 in the second half, but Eastern cut into the lead with a 10-point run to shorten the lead to 53-51 with 14 minutes, 4 seconds remaining.

The Panthers trailed by between three and six for the remainder of the game, but were never able to usurp the lead from Evansville.

Miller said he thought his team had a good effort, but said he thinks the team needs to execute better.

"Playing hard is where it starts and we played with energy, but we didn't get many easy baskets," Miller said.

He said the Panthers need more guys to step up in the future like Marion.

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EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

M & W INDOOR TRACK
Friday vs. Indiana State |
TBA - Lantz Arena

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday vs. IPFW |
3 p.m. - Lantz Arena

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday vs. Western Illinois |
7 p.m. - Lantz Arena

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Dec. 19 at Indiana State |
4:45 p.m. - Terre Haute, Ind.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Dec. 22 vs. Chicago State |
7 p.m. - Lantz Arena